

# BREA Minutes

**Meeting Date and Place:** Tuesday May 10, 2016; 1:00 PM, BNL Bldg. 400, Rooms 1 and 2, Upton, NY  
Minutes recorded by Secretary Arnold Moodenbaugh (Moodenba@optonline.net) . [minutes as approved at 6/14/16 meeting]

**Attendees:** Nate Carter, Victor Casella, Anita Cohen, Cheryl Conrad, David Cox, Les Fishbone, Eena-Mai Franz, Sheryl Gerstman, Mark Israel, Bob Kinsey, Lillian Kouchinsky, Jim Lemley, Barth Lin, Ken Mohring, Arnold Moodenbaugh, George Oldham, Arnie Peskin, Mona Rowe, Liz Seubert, Steve Shapiro, Barry Siskind, John Skalyo.

Contact BREA:  
BNL Bldg. 400A  
BERA Recreation / Attention BREA  
Upton, NY 11973

Sign in sheets were circulated for attendees, with names collected shown above. President Liz Seubert opened the meeting just after 1:00 PM.

**1. Minutes.** Minutes for the March 8 and April 12 meetings were approved.

**2. Treasurer's Report** by Steve Shapiro (Treasurer): Approximately \$39,000 in all accounts. Expenses: approximately \$400 cost for printing and mailing the newsletter. An approved \$200 was provided toward an ASAP (student/post-doc BERA club) meeting lunch discussion with American Physical Society journal editors. An overview of the annual income / expenses was provided. Income is estimated at \$3000 per year (dues). Recent expenses have been near \$500 per year. Future newsletter costs will be \$3000 per year (based on the assumption that BSA will no longer contribute to this function). Activity costs borne by BREA could be estimated at about \$3000 per year. A further investigation into a possible contribution to the Tesla museum was made. A window would cost \$20000, so is probably not in the scope of a BREA contribution. Possibly a plaque in the \$200 range could be considered. Liz Seubert commented that the newsletter costs could decrease if a significant fraction of members opted for electronic delivery. Treasurer's report approved by voice vote.

**3. Membership Report** by Membership Chair Sheryl Gerstman: \$3945 has been received in dues for the current year. There are 423 current paid members including 66 lifetime paid members. There are an additional 90 members in arrears. S. G. is continuing to contact members to fill in gaps in the BREA paper documentation and to correct the records based on member response. S. G. will resign the Membership Chair at the October meeting and will return to BREA the paper documentation and the BREA laptop with electronic documentation. An effort to identify a successor is being launched by Liz Seubert with the help of other BREA officers.

**4. Annual Lunch:** Lillian Kouchinsky states that the lunch is well organized at present. Luncheon will be at the Bellport Country Club on Wed. June 8 between 12:00 and 4:00. Member price is \$39.00. N. Samios is scheduled to talk. BREA will cover cost of lunches for him and other invitees (invitees were listed by Liz Seubert). Mona Rowe suggested that a table (or portion of a table) be available for BREA

members to display literature inviting members to become volunteers for various charitable activities. L. K. will coordinate with Bellport Country Club to have space available.

**5. Newsletter report** by Editors Mona Rowe and Anita Cohen. Next newsletter content will consist primarily of photos from the Luncheon. There will be a short introduction by Liz Seubert, a request for volunteers for the post of Membership Chair, memorials. Suggested topics for the following newsletter were for a feature on Steve Kramer's volunteers for Haiti relief [see also new business 7h).

**6. Constitution revision.** Arnie Peskin suggested we leave the newly approved constitution as-is for a year or two before considering additional revisions.

**7. New Business:**

a) BREA history. Arnie Peskin suggested developing a history of BREA. BREA was originated in approximately 1997 (described in the Brookhaven Bulletin as "BERA", but changed to BREA to avoid some confusion with the umbrella organization BERA). Motivation for organizing the club was the transition of BNL from AUI to BSA management. Anita Cohen, Arnie Peskin, and Dave Cox will take the lead on developing a history.

b) Retirees to organize at Argonne. Liz Seubert stated that she was contacted by Argonne retirees who intend to organize a retired Argonne employee organization. She will respond with advice. Dave Cox will provide contact information for similar DOE contract lab retiree organizations to L. S. to forward to the Argonne contacts.

c) Summer Sunday. BERA requested a donation from BREA for Summer Fun Sunday, to fund (or partially fund) a math magician (MatheMagic). There are hurdles to a BREA contribution to a BSA activity, and Mark Israel will inquire to BNL staff on how to handle this. It was generally agreed that the event would be worthwhile, and BREA should have a prominent acknowledgment. It was voted on and approved by a show of hands that Liz Seubert be authorized to contribute up to \$2000 from BREA in order to bring the math magician to BNL to perform, with additional conditions to be determined by Liz Seubert.

d) Newsletter email option. Sheryl Gerstman is to be notified by members who want to opt for email newsletter delivery. Names and expiration dates for BREA membership are to be posted on the BREA portion of the BNL website.

e) Don Farnham has asked for volunteers to decorate and otherwise refurbish a large street mailbox to be used for collection of old flags for appropriate disposal.

f) A member noted that Brookhaven Town offers many programs for seniors, specifically at Mt. Sinai, but also at other locations. Another member pointed out that Riverhead Town also has programs. BREA members should check their own town for senior-related services.

g) It was noted that 40 people were at the most recent Calverton Memorial burial ceremony ( 2d Wed. of each month at 10:00AM).

h) A talk by Haiti relief spokesperson Steve Kramer was proposed. BNL has determined that any talk would have to be internal (not open to the public). This limits an audience and throws doubt on potential benefit to the relief organization.

Meeting adjourned at about 1:30 PM.

Next meetings:

Tuesday, June 14, 2016, 1:00 pm, BNL Bldg. 400, Rms RSB 1 & 2

Tuesday July 12, 2016, 1:00 pm, BNL Bldg. 400, Rms RSB 1 & 2.